

**FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE**  
**Washington 25, D. C.**

**February 19, 1948**

**VIA DIPLOMATIC POUGH**

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Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
c/o American Embassy  
1 Grosvenor Square  
London West One, England

Dear Mr. Kage:

In confirmation of my teletype message of this date, it is reiterated that roundups which your office prepares must be completely objective surveys, without any observation or conclusion on the part of the writer. A memorandum of 8 January 1947 establishes that FBIS may include in its operations:

- "(1) Preparation of resumes and summaries
- (2) Condensations
- (3) Compilation of extracts along selected topical lines
- (4) Comparison of propaganda lines, either periodically or country-wise."

provided that "processing be restricted to factual analysis" and "any interpretive analysis of material furnished by FBIS be prepared by...ORR".

More recently one of the FBIS Special Reports which was intended to be factual but the phrasing of which implied some measure of interpretation drew the following cautionary instruction from the Office of Operations:

"Interpretation and analysis is not a function of FBIS. This is exclusively the problem of ORR.

"FBIS, in preparing special reports, should confine itself to careful compilations of significant radio broadcasts on particular subjects. Care should be used to quote where possible the exact language of the radio broadcast rather than paraphrase it in the words of an FBIS editor. Particular attention should be given to avoiding the use of cliches and colloquialisms such as are predominant in this report."

It is clear from these instructions that you must not only avoid all deliberate interpretation of broadcast material but also take every precaution against the careless use of prejudicial adjectives, phrases or statements which might imply interpretation. It is expected that no further violation of functional limitations on the part of the London Bureau will occur.

Very truly yours,

PKE:bhr

cc: CO

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